

2022 North of Falcon

NOF # 1 - Preliminary Modeling

March 16, 2022



WELCOME – THANKS FOR JOINING US!

ZOOM MEET/ CALL LOGISTICS / GROUND RULES

- You can turn your camera on and mute or unmute yourself through the control panel at the bottom of your screen.
- We will keep folks muted during the beginning of our program, then will unmute folks when we open it up for questions and feedback. Callers can unmute yourself by pressing *6 on your phone.
- We ask that you “raise their hand” to ask a question which you can access through the control panel at the bottom of the screen. You can also raise your hand by hovering over your face or name on the list of participants. Callers can raise their hand by dialing *9.
- Be respectful of others
 - Mute phone or line
 - Be tough on issues and questions, not on people or organizations
 - No personal attacks, insults or threats
 - Listen
 - Speak and act professional – *no offensive, disrespectful, or derogatory language, including profanity*
 - Allow for a balance of speaking time – *limit length and number of times to speak on each topic*
- If you have any technical issues during the call, use the chat button and we will help you through those.
Please do not use the chat for questions or comments on the presentation, we will take those live.



Agenda

- Welcome and Introduction
- Overview of North Of Falcon process
- Review of 2022 Forecasts, management objectives, and stocks of concern
- PFMCI - Non-treaty ocean options
- Preliminary modeling results
- Considerations for 2022
- Remaining meeting schedule

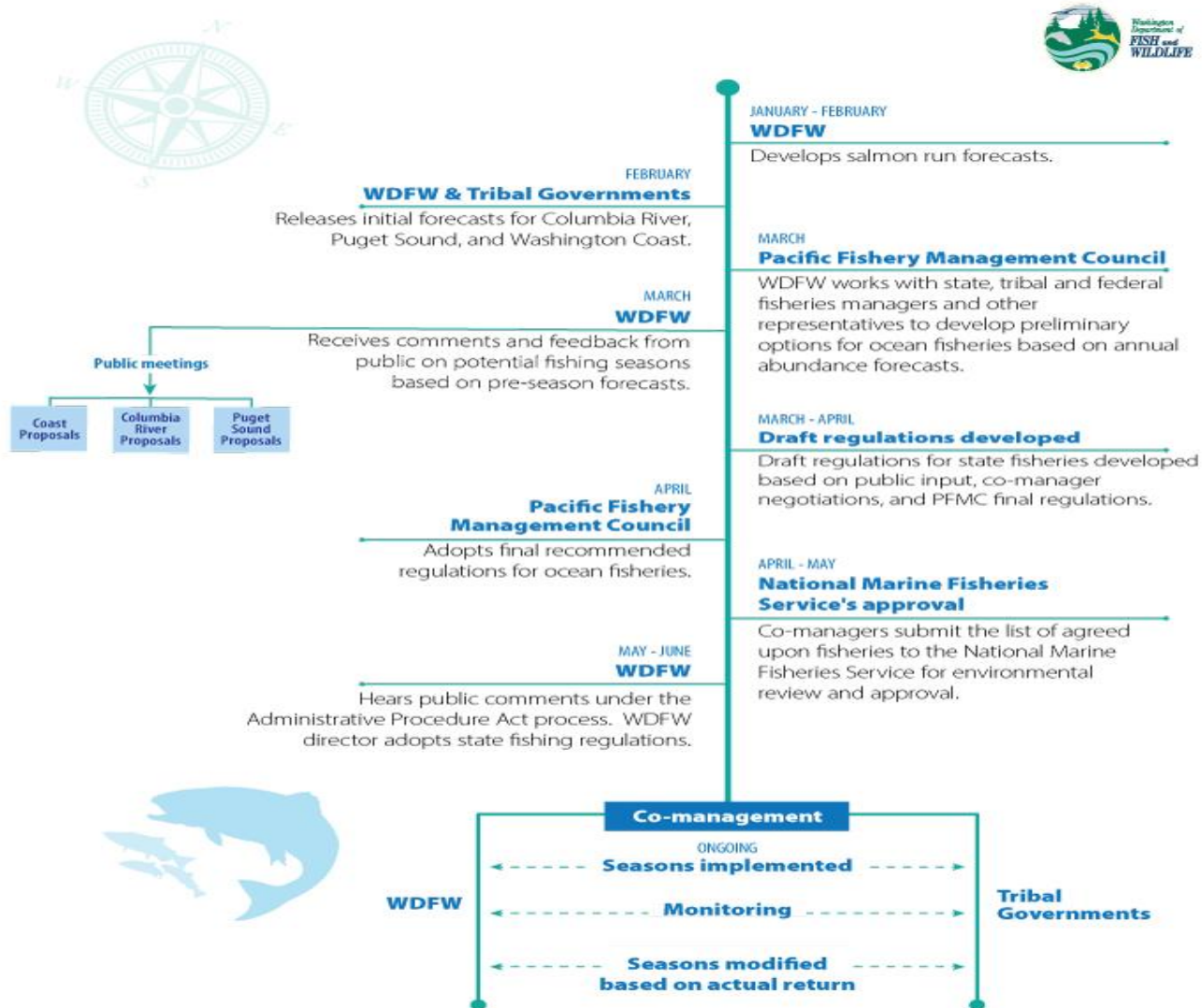


What is North of Falcon?

- North of Falcon is the annual, cooperative process to set salmon seasons in Washington waters.
- The name refers to waters north of Oregon's Cape Falcon, which marks the southern border of Washington's management of salmon stocks.
- One component of a larger salmon season-setting process that also involves the state, tribal governments, federal regulators, other U.S. states, and Canada.



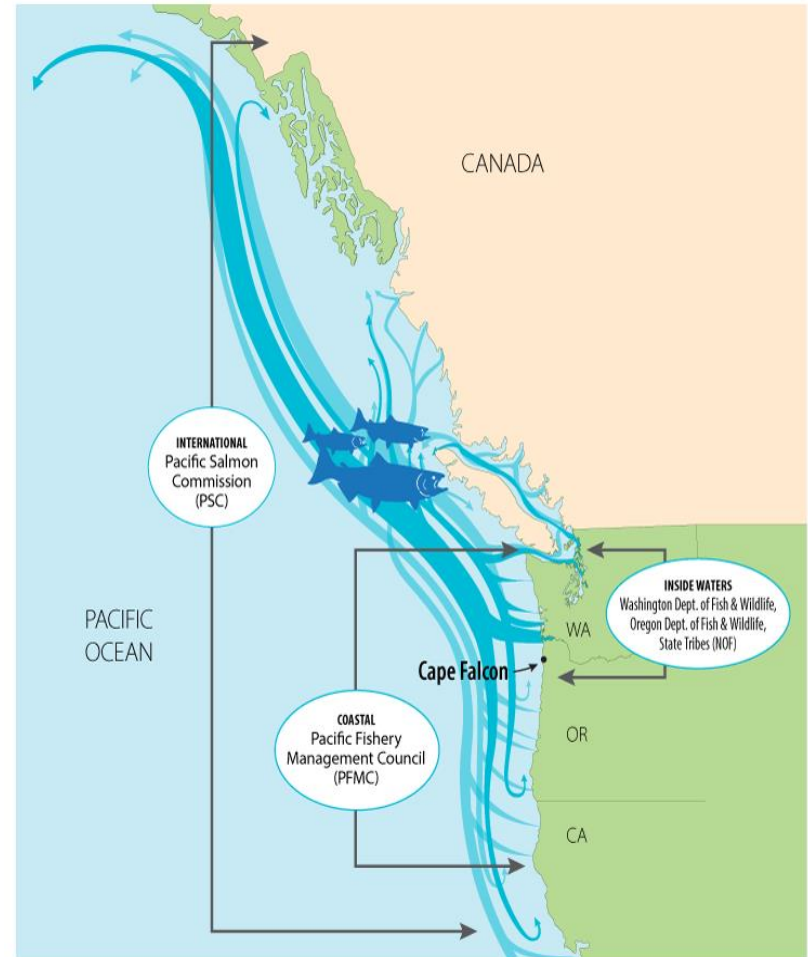
North of Falcon timeline



What guides North of Falcon?

Fishery managers must weigh many factors when developing salmon seasons, including:

- Endangered Species Act (ESA) constraints
- Commission policy
- Pacific Salmon Treaty obligations
- Tribal co-management: Washington's treaty tribes manage their own fisheries, sharing data and splitting harvest with the state
- Extensive monitoring and evaluation of fisheries statewide



North of Falcon Process

**1. FORECAST THE ABUNDANCE
OF EACH STOCK.**

**2. DETERMINE IF THERE IS A
HARVESTABLE SURPLUS.**

3. PROPOSE FISHERIES.

**4. MODEL FISHERIES TO
DETERMINE WHICH STOCKS
ARE OF CONSERVATION
CONCERN, CONSTRAINING
FISHERIES.**

**5. NEGOTIATE WITH TRIBES
AND OTHER STATES FOR FAIR
SHARING OF CATCH AND
IMPACTS ON STOCKS THAT ARE
CONSTRAINING.**

**6. FINAL AGREED-TO STATE
AND TRIBAL SALMON
FISHERIES (OCEAN, PUGET
SOUND) ARE DESCRIBED IN THE
“LIST OF AGREED FISHERIES”
DOCUMENT.**



Forecast Recap for 2022

Puget Sound Chinook:

- Natural stocks down 36% and Hatchery stocks up 6% from recent 10-year average

Coastal Chinook:

- Natural Stocks up 8% and Hatchery stocks up 10% from recent 10yr avg

Columbia River Chinook:

- Improved returns for Spring and similar to last year for Summer
- Lower river Hatchery stocks similar to last year and down 11% from recent 10 yr avg

Puget Sound Coho:

- Natural stocks up 29% and Hatchery stocks up 61% from 10-year average

Coastal Coho:

- Natural Stocks up 45% and Hatchery stocks up 63% from 10yr avg

Columbia River Coho:

- Very good returns forecasted for 2022 - 997.2k.



Ocean/Columbia River Management Objectives

Key Stock	Management Criteria (ER or esc)
Columbia Lower River Tules (Chinook)	38% Total ER
Lower Columbia River Natural (Coho)	23% Total ER
Grays Harbor Natural Coho	35,400 esc
Queets Natural Coho	5,800 – 14,500 esc
Hoh River Natural Coho	2,000 – 5,000 esc
Quillayute River Fall Natural Coho	6,300 – 15,800 esc
Oregon Coastal Natural Coho	15% Total ER
Interior Fraser River (Thompson) Coho (Canada)	10% SUS ER



Chinook Management Objectives PS

Management Unit	NMFS Guidance/Co-Manager Proposal
Nooksack Spring	10.9% SUS ER
Skagit Summer/Fall	52% Total
Skagit Spring-run	36% Total
Stillaguamish River	9% UM SUS max; 14% M SUS
Snohomish River	< 8.3% SUS ER - DISCUSS
Lake Washington	15% PT SUS
Green River	15% PT SUS
White River Spring-run	22% SUS
Puyallup	15% PT SUS
Nisqually	47% Total
Skokomish fall-run	50% total
Mid Hood Canal	Limited by exploitation rates of other MUs
Dungeness	10% SUS
Elwha	10% SUS



Coho Management Objectives

Puget Sound

Puget Sound Stocks	2022 Adult Forecast (Ocean Age 3)	2022 Assigned FMP Status	Total ER Ceiling
Strait of Juan de Fuca *	7,297	Critical	20 %
Hood Canal **	20,196	Low	45 %
Skagit	80,378	Normal	60 %
Stillaguamish	24,892	Normal	50 %
Snohomish ***	64,200	Low	40 %

* Strait Stocks are under a Rebuilding Plan

** Hood Canal Coho are currently in overfished status

*** Snohomish under a Rebuilding Plan and managed to minimum escapement target of 55,000



Proposed Non-Treaty Ocean quotas for 2022

Alternative #1		Alternative # 2		Alternative # 3	
2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021
Chinook 65,000	Chinook 60,000	Chinook 60,000	Chinook 50,000	Chinook 53,000	Closed to salmon fishing
Coho 210,000	Coho 80,000	Coho 185,000	Coho 90,000+20K	Coho 160,000	Closed to salmon fishing



Ocean/Columbia River Preliminary Modeling

Key Stock	Management Criteria (ER or esc)	High Ocean Option
Columbia Lower River Tules (Chinook)	38% ER	40.3%
Lower Columbia River Natural (Coho)	23% ER	17.4%
Grays Harbor Natural Coho	35,400 esc	86,136
Queets Natural Coho	5,800 – 14,500 esc	13,813
Hoh River Natural Coho	2,000 – 5,000 esc	3,222
Quillayute River Fall Natural Coho	6,300 – 15,800 esc	10,314
Oregon Coastal Natural Coho	15% ER	14.4%
Interior Fraser River (Thompson) Coho (Canada)	10% SUS ER	9.7%



Current Chinook Modeling PS

Management Unit	NMFS Guidance/Co-Manager Proposal	2021 Fisheries/2022 Abundances (High Ocean Option CHIN1322)
Nooksack Spring	10.9% SUS ER	11.3%
Skagit Summer/Fall	52% Total ER	38.4%
Skagit Spring	36% Total ER	17.2%
Stillaguamish River	9% UM SUS max; 14% M SUS	8.7% UM; 11.5% M SUS
Snohomish River	< 8.3% SUS ER - DISCUSS	7.3% SUS
Lake Washington	15% PT SUS	14.0%
Green River	15% PT SUS	14.0%
White River Spring	22% SUS	17.6%
Puyallup	15% PT SUS	14.0%
Nisqually	47% Total ER	49.6%
Skokomish fall-run	50% total ER	52.5%
Mid Hood Canal	Limited by exploitation rates of other MUs	No ER ceiling
Dungeness	10% SUS	4.5%
Elwha	10% SUS	4.6%



Current Coho Modeling (2022 Abundances with 2021 Fisheries)

Management Unit	ER CEILING	High	Mid	Low
SKAGIT	60%	32.0%	31.0%	30.0%
STILLY	50%	32.0%	32.0%	31.0%
SNOHOMISH	40%	32.2%	31.7%	31.3%
SNOHOMISH ESC	55,000	43,029	43,356	43,617
HOOD CANAL	45%	43%	42.0%	41.0%
JUAN DE FUCA TRIBS	10% SUS	8.5%	7.8%	7.0%
Lower Fraser (Thompson)	10% SUS	9.7%	8.8%	7.8%



Considerations for 2022 salmon season

- Forecasts for Puget Sound Chinook and Coho stocks modestly improved over recent years
 - Chinook stocks continue to be depressed relative to their status at listing and designated "In-crisis" in the State of the Salmon Report in 2020
 - Low expected returns of natural Chinook to Stillaguamish and Snohomish Rivers
 - Low expected returns of natural coho in South Sound, Hood Canal, and the Strait of Juan de Fuca stocks
 - Potential to have both Queets and Snohomish stocks reach "rebuilt"
 - Chum stocks returning to South Sound and Hood Canal similar to 2021
 - Continued concerns for SRKW



2022 NOF Meeting Schedule

All meetings will be held virtually

Meeting links and materials are available on the WDFW webpage

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/management/north-falcon/public-meetings>

Date	Purpose
Mar. 16-17	North of Falcon #1
Mar. 21	Grays Harbor Fisheries Discussion
Mar. 22	Public Hearing on Ocean Salmon Management Options
Mar. 23	North Coast and Straits Recreational Fisheries Discussion
Mar. 24	Willapa Bay Fisheries Discussion
Mar. 28	Puget Sound Recreational Fisheries Discussion
Mar. 29-31	North of Falcon #2
Apr. 1	Columbia River and Ocean Fisheries Discussion
Apr. 5	Willapa Bay Fisheries Discussion
Apr. 6	Grays Harbor Fisheries Discussion
Apr. 7-13	Final Pacific Fishery Management Council Meeting



Questions/Comments?

